

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 14 of 1888.]

REPORT ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 7th April 1888.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Ahammadi" ...	Tangail, Mymensingh.	.....
2	"Kasipore Nibasi" ...	Kasipore, Burrisal ...	.....
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
3	"Ave Maria" ...	Calcutta	.....
4	"Chandra Vilash" ...	Berhampore	.....
5	"Divakar" ...	Calcutta	.....
6	"Gaura Duta" ...	Maldah	.....	26th March 1888.
7	"Grambasi" ...	Uluberia	.....
8	"Purva Bangabasi" ...	Noakhally	.....
9	"Purva Darpan" ...	Chittagong	700	
10	"Uttara Banga Hitaishi" ...	Mahiganj, Rungpore...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
11	"Arya Darpan" ...	Calcutta	102	30th ditto.
12	"Bangabasi" ...	Ditto	20,000	31st ditto.
13	"Burdwan Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan	302	27th ditto.
14	"Charuvarta" ...	Sherepore, Mymensingh	600	26th ditto.
15	"Chattal Gazette" ...	Chittagong	.....	27th ditto.
16	"Dacca Prakash" ...	Dacca	450	1st April 1888.
17	"Dhumaketu" ...	Chandernagore	.....
18	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly	825	30th March 1888.
19	"Garib and Mahavidya" ...	Dacca	.....
20	"Hindu Ranjika" ...	Beauleah, Rajshahye...	200	28th ditto.
21	"Jagatbasi" ...	Calcutta	.....	29th ditto.
22	"Murshidabad Patrika" ...	Berhampore	508	
23	"Murshidabad Pratinidhi" ...	Ditto	.....	30th ditto.
24	"Navavibhakar Sadharani" ...	Calcutta	1,000	2nd April 1888.
25	"Praja Bandhu" ...	Chandernagore	995	30th March 1888.
26	"Pratikar" ...	Berhampore	600	30th March 1888.
27	"Rungpore Dik Prakash" ...	Kakiniá, Rungpore	205	29th ditto.
28	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta	600	28th ditto.
29	"Samaya" ...	Ditto	2,350	
30	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto	4,000	31st ditto.
31	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong	800	23rd ditto.
32	"Saraswat Patra" ...	Dacca	400	
33	"Som Prakash" ...	Calcutta	1,000	2nd April 1888.
34	"Srimanta Saudagar" ...	Ditto	.....	27th March 1888.
35	"Sulabha Samachar and Kusadaha" ...	Ditto	3,000	30th ditto.
36	"Surabhi and Patika" ...	Ditto	700	
<i>Daily.</i>				
37	"Dainik and Samachar Chandrika" ...	Calcutta	7,000	1st to 5th April 1888.
38	"Samvad Prabhakar" ...	Ditto	200	28th to 31st March and 2nd and 3rd April 1888.
39	"Samvad Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto	300	
40	"Banga Vidyá Prakashika" ...	Ditto	600	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
41	"Dacca Gazette"	Dacca ...	.....	2nd April 1888.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
42	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Sámachār Patrikā."	Darjeeling ...	.....
43	"Kshatriya Pratikā"	Patna ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
44	"Aryāvarta"	Calcutta ...	.....	31st March 1888.
45	"Behar Bandhu"	Bankipore ...	.....
46	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	1,500	29th ditto.
47	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto ...	500	2nd April 1888.
48	"Uchit Baktā"	Ditto ...	4,500	
49	"Hindi Samāchār"	Bhagulpore ...	1,000	
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
50	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Calcutta ...	250	30th March 1888.
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
51	"Aftal Alum Arrah"	Arrah ...	.....
52	"Anis"	Patna ...	.....	26th ditto.
53	"Gauhur"	Calcutta ...	196	1st April 1888.
54	"Sharaf-ul-Akbar"	Behar ...	150	
55	"Al Punch"	Bankipore ...	.....	2nd ditto.
<i>Bi-weekly.</i>				
56	"Akbar-i-darusaltanat"	Calcutta ...	340	27th March 1888.
<i>Daily.</i>				
57	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	212	29th to 31st & 2nd to 5th April 1888.
URIYA.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
58	"Taraka and Subhāvartā"	Cuttack ...	.....
59	"Pradīp"	Ditto ...	.....
60	"Samyabadi"	Ditto ...	.....
<i>Weekly.</i>				
61	"Utkal Dīpikā"	Cuttack ...	200	
62	"Balasore Samvad Vāhikā"	Balasore ..	205	
63	"Sanskāraka"	Cuttack ..	200	
64	"Uriya and Navasamvād"	Balasore ..	.....
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
65	"Silchar"	Silchar ...	.....	26th March 1888.
<i>Weekly.</i>				
66	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	450	26th ditto.

I.—FOREIGN POLITICS.

THE Education Gazette, of the 30th March, says that China is now a much stronger military power than it was 30 years ago. The Government of India is now on friendly terms with China, and there is no room for doubt that that friendship will gradually become closer. Burmah used to send an Envoy to China every ten years, and the Government of India, desiring not to offend that power, has not abandoned that practice. The Thibet Mission was abandoned by the Government of India because China objected to it, and England has made a free gift to China of a fort and port in Corea. It is also believed that there will be no disagreement between China and the Indian Government on the opium trade question, if only the terms of the Chinese Government be reasonable. This friendly and conciliatory attitude of the Government of India towards China is very commendable. Any further extension of the Indian Empire towards the East is not feasible; and so in the course of time Tonquin, Anam and other places will come under the Government of China, and the Indo-Chinese Peninsula will become partly Chinese and partly British Indian territory. And it is very probable that Russia, leaving all those places in the neighbourhood of Manchooria and Corea, will recede hereafter further northward; and if war ever breaks out with Russia in Asia, the Chinese Government will find it its interest to assist the Government of India. The Russians have already annexed some portions of Chinese territory, and it seems to be their fixed policy to extend their dominion from the north to the south of China. It is therefore certain that China will not pull well with Russia, and will always cultivate friendly terms with England. And so, if war ever breaks out in Asia with Russia, India and China, the two most ancient kingdoms, will combine to teach her a sound lesson.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
March 30th, 1888.

2. The *Bangabási*, of the 31st March, is alarmed to hear that the Government is going to establish a cantonment at Natang near the Lingtu Fort. The

The Sikkim War.

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

fact that the Thibetans have up to this time offered no resistance to the English should not lead anyone to suppose that they will never do so. The Thibetans have massed 2,000 soldiers in the Chumbi valley near Lingtu, and seven hundred Bhutias are willing to join them. And who shall say that they will not one day most unexpectedly endanger the situation of the English troops? Well, if they do so, will the British troops march towards the Thibetan frontier to fight with the Thibetans? Perhaps they will, and then the real difficulty of the occupation of the Lingtu Fort will be manifest. Again, if English troops enter Thibetan territory, China will not look quietly on; and if China assumes a hostile attitude, she will give the English endless trouble in Burmah and in Thibet. This Sikkim war bodes no good to the English. It will prove a dangerous undertaking after all.

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

3. The *Sansodhini*, of the 23rd March, says that two gentlemen of Saikkhil, under Jaldi Police outpost who are unknown to the editor of this paper, complain of the doings of a Moulavi of that village. It is alleged that the Moulavi is oppressing the people with the assistance of a chowkidar. This chowkidar disobeys the orders of the Panchayet and

SANSODHINI,
March 23rd, 1888.

A village chowkidar in Chittagong.

does not keep watch at night, and has moreover accepted service under a zemindar on a monthly salary of Rs. 6. It is hoped that the police officers of Jaldi will make a careful inquiry into the matter.

CHARTU VARTA.
March 26th, 1888.

4. The Sherpore correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 26th March, says that Babu Pratab Singh, head-

The head-constable of the police section at Sherpore in Mymensingh.

constable of the Sherpore police section, has become more oppressive than before since the

publication of the order for his transfer. It is therefore hoped that the District Superintendent of Police will, without delay, carry out his order for Pratab Singh's transfer into execution. Complaints are also heard about oppressions committed by some up-country budmashas, who are encouraged by Pratab Singh, and who meet in the section house.

CHATTAL GAZETTE
March 27th 1888.

5. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 27th March, says that a daring dacoity was lately committed at Sakpur, a

A dacoity at Sakpur in Tipperah.

village within the jurisdiction of the Chandila

thana in the Tipperah district. The police has not up to this time succeeded in tracing the dacoits. The policemen have only assaulted some innocent people, and have therefore had criminal charges preferred against them. Government has framed very strict laws for the guidance of the police, but it has not succeeded in putting down its high-handedness.

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

6. A correspondent of the *Bangabási*, of the 31st March, reports

A fire at Bishenpore in Bankoora.

that a fire lately broke out at Bishenpore Krishnagunge in Bankoora, and nearly 200

houses were burnt down. The fire originated in a cart and spread in all directions. About 500 persons have become homeless. Such fires are very common at Bishenpore. The authorities should therefore purchase a pump for putting out fires.

SANJIVANI,
March 31st, 1888.

7. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st March, says that those who have

The Confidential Police Circular and the Town Hall Meeting in honour of Lord Dufferin.

studied the constitution of the Bengal Police will admit that great oppression will result from the Confidential Police Circular. The

Pioneer, too, cannot but admit this. That it is nevertheless supporting the Circular is because it is its business to defend all official measures, good or bad. The operation of this Police Circular in Calcutta, as observed in connection with the Town Hall Meeting in honour of Lord Dufferin, shows that great mischief will be produced by it in the mofussil. Two brothers, who are well known in Calcutta, and who had been hitherto mixing with the real well-wishers of the country by professing to be patriots, acted the part of spies in this connection. They went about dissuading the opposers from going to the meeting by telling them that if they went there they would not return unhurt, and at the same time they furnished the police and the promoters of the movement with information regarding the designs and intentions of the opposers. How correct this information was will appear from the fact that these spies informed the police that the proprietors of the *Sanjivani* had brought together about one thousand school-boys at the house of Kumars Nilkrishna and Binaykrishna to concert measures for breaking up the Town Hall meeting; whereas the real fact is that two of the proprietors of this paper were invited by the Kumars for the purpose of a consultation on the subject of the Town Hall Meeting, and that more than six persons were at no time present at the Conference. The presence of so many English constables at the Town Hall Meeting is due to this information. The police did not dare to commit any oppression in this connection because the place was Calcutta. But can there be any doubt about the enormity of the oppressions which they would have committed if it had been any other place than Calcutta?

(b)—Working of the Courts.

8. The Sherpore correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 26th March, complains of the order of the District Judge of Mymensingh placing the Phulpore station under the Mymensingh Sudder Munsifi. Under this order all cases postponed before the 1st of April, and all cases instituted before that date, and other court business, will be disposed of by the Sudder Munsifi. But this arrangement will put suitors and pleaders to endless trouble and inconvenience.

CHÁRUVARTÁ,
March 26th, 1888.

9. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st March, says that the Assistant Commissioner of Mangaldai has sent up the plaint in the case against Behu Kochin with a view of disproving the charge brought against him of having ordered a woman to be whipped; and the Officiating Judicial Commissioner of Assam seems perplexed at not finding any mention of a woman in the judgment. But Behu Kochin has been described as a woman in the General Register, in the Crimes Register, in the police-book, and in the monthly whipping report which is signed by the Assistant Commissioner himself. The Assistant Commissioner is now trying to correct the papers.

SANJIVANI,
March 31st, 1888.

10. A correspondent of the same paper complains of the great mischief which is done by touters in the Burisal Courts, and requests the Judge, the Magistrate, and the other judicial officers of the place to put them down.

SANJIVANI.

11. The *Dainik and Samáchar Chandriká*, of the 4th April, complains that Munsifs and Subordinate Judges have generally to work very hard. Mr. Justice Prinsep, in the course of his tour, had a talk on this subject with a Subordinate Judge, and stated it as his opinion that judicial officers should make it a point not to work after 6 P.M. But a simple expression of opinion of this kind will not do; the High Court should make it possible for judicial officers to work less hard by exacting less return of work from them. It is owing to overwork that Subordinate Judges are generally found to die of diabetes.

DAINIK & SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 4th, 1888.

(d)—Education.

12. A correspondent of the *Cháruvartá*, of the 26th March, says that many students have, in contravention of the inter-school rules, taken admission into the new school founded by Gopi Mohan Baboo at Dacca, without producing certificates from their former school authorizing such transfer. Gopi Mohan Baboo, however, does not admit this. But the head-master of the old school informed the Inspector of Schools that the fact that inter-school rules had been violated in this way would be established if he would make an inquiry accompanied by a teacher from his school. But it is wonderful that the Inspector only told him in reply that he could not act upon mere suspicion, and thus dropped the matter.

CHÁRUVARTÁ,
March 26th, 1888.

13. Another correspondent of the same paper says that, as the middle and lower class schools have been placed under the control of the District Boards, Government should now entrust to those Boards the duty of selecting text-books for use in those schools. The majority of the members of those Boards being natives, they would be the best judges of the intellectual capacity of native children in different

CHÁRUVARTÁ.

stages of progress. It is also hoped that the study of mensuration, physical geography and physics should be done away with in the class of schools referred to.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1888.

14. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 27th March, says that the Chittagong College improved considerably under the management of the late Principal Chandra Mohan Baboo, but is deteriorating under the management of the present Principal Mr. Dutt. Mr. Dutt's great fault is that he suffers himself to be guided by others. Mr. Dutt has selected some useless and difficult books as text-books for the lower classes of the collegiate school. Most of these books have been written by pandits serving under him. Mr. Dutt overlooks the claims to promotion of Baboo Krishna Kumar Dutt, one of the pundits of the school, because Baboo Krishna Kumar has somehow or other incurred his displeasure.

CHATTAL GAZETTE.

15. The same paper is sorry to find that only the head-masters of the normal school, the collegiate school, the middle English school and the middle vernacular school were invited on the occasion of the distribution of prizes at the Chittagong Madrassa. All the teachers in Chittagong town ought to have been invited. The Moulavi Sahib, the Superintendent of the institution, should have invited at least the graduate teachers.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
March 29th, 1888.

16. A correspondent of the *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 29th March, complains that the questions on Literature and Arithmetic set to the candidates at the Middle English and Middle Vernacular Scholarship Examinations were very stiff. Indeed questions so difficult have not been set at these examinations for the last 20 or 30 years.

SULABHA SAMACHAR &
KUSHDAHA,
March 30th, 1888.

17. The *Sulabh Samachar and Kushdaha*, of the 30th March, says that the Deputy and Sub-Inspectors of Schools get no travelling allowance unless they travel more than 20 miles a day. Is it the object of Government that these inspecting officers should only travel 20 miles a day, and pay no attention to the actual work of inspection? Again, the health of these officers must suffer if they travel such long distances every day during the summer months. Or is it the intention of Government, by making such a rule as this, to practically deprive these officers of travelling allowances? It is hoped that the authorities will change this obnoxious rule.

SANJIVANI,
March 31st, 1888.

18. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st March, notices a correspondence to the effect that the head-master of the Mugkallan Higher Class English School, Howrah, is a drunkard, and that some of his pupils, including his own son, have followed his vicious example. The head-master has become so worthless by hard drinking that he punishes those boys who join the local association formed with the object of improving the morals of the students. The Deputy Inspector of Schools, Howrah, is requested to attend to the matter.

SAR SUDHANIDHI
April 2nd, 1888.

19. The *Sar Sudhanidhi*, of the 2nd April, says that only a little above one crore of rupees is spent annually for the education of 210 millions of Indians, though the annual revenue of the country amounts to 80 crores of rupees. On the other hand, 16 lakhs of rupees is spent annually in providing religious instruction for the five lakhs of Christians who reside in this country.

DAINIK & SAMAGHAR
CHANDRIKA,
April 2nd, 1888.

20. Referring to the Lieutenant-Governor's reply to the Cuttack memorial protesting against the conversion of certain school-boys to Brahmoism by the local Deputy Inspector of Schools, the *Dainik and Samachar Chandrika*, of the 2nd April, says that the Deputy Inspector has been rather leniently dealt with. But the Lieutenant-Governor has done well in forbidding the Deputy Inspector to publicly discharge the duties of an Acharya or priest of the Brahmo religion so long as he holds his present post.

The Cuttack conversion case.

(c)—Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.

SANSODHINI,
March 23rd, 1888.

21. The *Sansodhini*, of the 23rd March, says that, though the present Vice-Chairman of the Chittagong Municipality is a just, able, hardworking and conscientious officer, he cannot, on account of the pressure of other work, regularly attend the District Board office. All real work of the Board is thus done by the clerks, and the Vice-Chairman only signs the papers which are submitted to him by the clerks for signature. It is therefore necessary that an able and experienced gentleman, who can devote all his time and energy to the work of the Board, should be appointed as Vice-Chairman on a monthly salary of Rs. 300.

The Chittagong District Board.

A paid Vice-Chairman will not mean additional expenditure for the Board. The paid Vice-Chairman will spend at least 15 days in the month in inspecting roads, ferries, schools, &c., and so the number of inspecting officers will admit of reduction. Again, as the paid Vice-Chairman will regularly attend to and perform office work, his office establishment will also admit of considerable reduction, and so on.

CHARU VARTA,
March 26th, 1888.

22. The *Charuvarta*, of the 26th March, draws the attention of the Commissioners of the Mymensingh Municipality to the following suggestions:—

The Mymensingh Municipality.

1. The practice of allowing boats to lie at anchor at night near the town should be discontinued, as it is owing to this practice that the water of the Brahmaputra near the town is so impure.
2. The *domes* should be made to perform their duty more carefully. Dead animals are not now promptly removed.
3. The public latrines should be kept clean.

23. The *Gaura Duta*, of the 26th March, is glad to find that the Vice-Chairman of the Old Maldah Municipality has applied to Government to make

The Old Maldah Municipality.

over to it the income derived from the Nima Sarai and Rangamati ferries. The greater part of the income from these two ferries is derived from the traders of the Old Maldah Municipality, and it ought therefore to belong to that Municipality. It is hoped that the District Magistrate will support this application, and that the Government will grant this legitimate prayer.

GAURA DUTA,
March 26th, 1888.

The lower Shrubbery market in Old Maldah is not kept clean. The smell of stale fish has become a nuisance in the neighbourhood. The fish market should be removed elsewhere, and if it is allowed to remain where it is, arrangements should be made to keep it clean. The Commissioners of the Municipality are requested to attend to the matter.

24. The same paper, disapproves of the proposal to transfer the control of the zillah schools into the hands of District Boards and Municipalities, for the funds at the disposal of these bodies will not be sufficient to defray

Municipal expenditure.

GAURA DUTA.

the cost of maintaining schools and colleges. They have already to maintain middle and lower class schools at a great cost, and it is well known that insufficiency of funds prevents them from carrying out sanitary measures to the extent which is considered needful by the Sanitary Commissioner and the District authorities. To make them defray the cost of higher education will therefore be to curtail their resources in a manner which will absolutely prevent them from carrying out those most essential and fundamental objects for which they exist.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 27th, 1888.

25. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 27th March, says that the Commissioners of the Burdwan Municipality have done an unwise thing by reducing the water-rate in certain cases from 5 to 4½ per cent. This reduction will give no sensible relief to anybody, but it will, in all likelihood, subject the Municipality to a loss of Rs. 1,600 every year. Again, seeing that the Muhammadans of Burdwan do not themselves want a slaughter-house within the town, it is far from clear why the Commissioners are so anxious to make a slaughter-house for them at a cost of Rs. 1,000. The writer has heard that the Muhammadans of Burdwan will not use the slaughter-house which will be built by the Municipality, and will kill animals outside of the municipal area.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI.

26. The same paper reports that cholera is still raging at Laldanga, near Burdwan. The village is just at the outskirts of the town. It should be at once incorporated in the Burdwan Municipality.

DARUSSALTANAT,
March 27th, 1888.

27. The *Darussaltanat*, of the 27th March, says that the people are very glad to hear that Sir Steuart Bayley intends to abolish the system of nominating members for municipalities. The abolition of nomination will favour the development of the system of self-government introduced by Lord Ripon.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1888.

28. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 27th March, reports the prevalence of cholera in the Commillah town and in the neighbouring villages. The Municipal authorities have paid no attention to the matter.

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

29. The *Bangabasi*, of the 31st March, disapproves of the proposal made by Sir Steuart Bayley in his recent Municipal Circular that Government should no longer appoint Municipal Commissioners. Local Self-Government has so far done nothing besides sowing the seeds of disunion and rousing party-spirit among the natives of the country; and the proposed measure, if carried into effect, will aggravate the mischief already done in this way. As regards Government officers, Local Self-Government has relieved them of a great deal of trouble in connection with municipal administration and transferred from them to the natives the odium of bad municipal administration. Thus, leading native gentlemen are everywhere incurring the ill-will of the great mass of their countrymen, and this is no small injury to the country; and all this mischief will be aggravated if the Lieutenant-Governor's proposal to do away with nomination is carried out.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 1st, 1888.

30. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 1st April, complains that the Municipal Commissioners of Dacca, with two or three exceptions, are quite ignorant of English. They cannot on that account take an active or intelligent interest in the business of that Corporation, and that business is therefore most perfunctorily done.

31. A correspondent of the *Som Prakāsh*, of the 2nd April, writing from Santipore, complains of the wretched condition of the Brahmatola road within the Municipality of Santipore, and states that Baboo Bejoy Madhub Mookerjee, Chairman of that Municipality, takes no interest in its affairs.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 2nd, 1888.

32. The *Navavibhakar Sādhārani*, of the 2nd April, objects to the proposal to make Magistrates *ex-officio* members of municipalities. This arrangement will make Self-Government a delusion and

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 2nd, 1888.

a sham. If a Magistrate becomes a member of a municipality, one of two things will happen. Either he will be elected as Chairman in the sincere and not unreasonable belief that he is the fittest man for that post, as has been the case in Howrah, or, if he is not elected as Chairman, he will practically guide the affairs of the municipality, while the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman will incur public odium for all bad measures. In either case the people will not learn true Self-Government, and so it was, after prolonged deliberation, that the far-sighted Lord Ripon stated it as his opinion that Magistrates should not be appointed as Chairmen even in those places where only men of mediocre abilities could be obtained. The writer has no objection, however, to the appointment of Civil Surgeons as *ex-officio* members of municipalities.

33. The *Urdu Guide*, of the 4th April, is not sure that the Hindus, who are not only numerically superior to the Mussulmans, but also possess greater influence than the latter, will not injure the Mussulmans in the matter of Municipal Self-Government. Under these circumstances, it cannot approve of any measure which will still further increase the strength and influence of the Hindus.

URDU GUIDE,
April 4th, 1888.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

34. The *Bangabasi*, of the 31st March, says that the driver Walker, who was prosecuted by the Railway authorities in connection with the Madanpore accident, has been acquitted by Mr. Hopkins, Magistrate of Nuddea; and the person who was in charge of the station at the time of the accident has also been found innocent. Who, then, is responsible for the accident? Surely the accident, which might have easily proved fatal to upwards of 100 persons, should not be allowed to be hushed up in this manner. The writer presses for a careful enquiry, and asks the authorities to see that similar accidents do not occur in future. It appears from the evidence given at the trial of Walker that the Railway authorities are only bent on reducing expenditure; and so they entrust the charge of stations to ill-paid and inexperienced men. Well, in this state of things accidents of this kind cannot but be very frequent. The death of one European from typhoid fever has created quite a sensation among the European community of Calcutta; and a mehter has been prosecuted and the Calcutta Municipality has been threatened with legal proceedings for its bad sanitary arrangements. But though upwards of 100 lives were endangered in the Madanpore accident, not a word has been spoken about it, and the Railway officers have been quietly let off. The Eastern Bengal Railway is now under State management: it is a disgrace to Government that it should be so badly managed.

BANGABASI,
March 21st, 1888.

(h)—*General.*

35. The *Burdwan Sanjivani*, of the 27th March, says that the Public Service Commission, while recommending the abolition of the Statutory Civil Service, states

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
March 27th, 1888.

in its report that the Government will have power, subject to the sanction of the Secretary of State for India, to confer appointments, similar to those which Covenanted Civilians are eligible for, upon any judicial officer, barrister-at-law, or vakeel of any High Court, when he is found to be possessed of extraordinary merit or ability, although he may not have passed the Civil Service Examination. This recommendation, if adopted, is likely to prove very salutary. But the Commission has made a mistake by not fixing the number of such appointments; for the natives, who dislike the idea of sending their children to England to compete for the Civil Service, set special value upon appointments of this order.

BURDWAN SANJIVANI
March 27th, 1888.

36. The same paper says that the Accountant-General has issued an order prohibiting the exchange of currency notes for cash till the 15th of April next in the Government treasury at Burdwan. In pursuance of this order no money is now received in that treasury in exchange for notes. The local public have been therefore subjected to great difficulty and inconvenience.

CHATTAL GAZETTE,
March 27th, 1888.

37. The *Chattal Gazette*, of the 27th March, has received a communication containing serious allegations against the Postmaster of Sakpur in Chittagong. The local public should bring the matter to the notice of the Postal authorities.

EDUCATION GAZETTE,
March 30th, 1888.

38. Referring to the statement made in the *Bangabasi* newspaper that the rate at which salt should sell should be announced by the Government by beat of tom-tom, the *Education Gazette*, of the 30th March, says that for the Government to rule the salt market is neither right nor practicable. Sellers of salt will not be bound by the rate which may be proclaimed by Government.

PRATIKAR,
March 30th, 1888.

39. The *Pratikar*, of the 30th March, referring to Lord Dufferin's expected visit to different places in upper India, hopes that this visit, which will probably be the last visit of His Excellency to those parts, will not be made an occasion for ruining anybody. The writer hopes that His Lordship will not fail to make enquiries into the highhanded proceedings of Sir Lepel Griffin in Rewa, and to remove the grievances of the Dowager Maharani of that State. It is also hoped that His Excellency will prove, on his arrival at Cashmere, that the rumours regarding the intended annexation of that State are untrue.

40. The same paper complains that during the working hours of the post office letters are not received for registration and money-orders are not accepted for transmission by the Sub-Postmaster of Khagra in Moorshedabad. The Postmaster spends the greater part of his time in his private apartments on the first floor, and the people who go to the post-office on business have to wait outside. He does not behave well towards the public. He employs his office peons to do his private business, and he therefore overlooks all irregularities committed by them in the delivery of letters.

ARYA DARPAN,
March 30th, 1888.

41. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 30th March, praises Sir Stuart Bayley for appointing Mr. K. M. Chatterjee a Judge of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. Mr. Chatterjee is a deserving gentleman, and the whole country is thanking His Honour for his wise selection.

42. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st March, cannot believe that there is any desire on the part of the Board of Revenue to give effect to the recommendations of the Excise Commission on the subject of the location of outstills.

SANJIVANI,
March 31st, 1888.

The violation of Excise Rules.

Almost all the outstills in the Hooghly and Howrah districts have been established at objectionable places. The conditions prescribed for the sale of outstill liquor are violated by the brewers. Recently the owner of the Dasghara outstill, Nakur Chundra Shah, sold to one Krishna Muchi on credit more than the prescribed quantity of liquor. But Nakur Chundra remained unpunished, for although the police can arrest and prosecute zemindars for exceeding their powers, it cannot arrest brewers for violating the conditions on which they receive their licenses, and cannot also prosecute them without the Collector's sanction. The police is not also allowed, as before, to enter into brewers' shops for the purpose of inspection. The number of excise inspecting officers in the Hooghly and Howrah districts is also insufficient. There are only seven such officers in those districts, and they receive such poor allowances that it is impossible for them to perform the work of inspection honestly and well. It is also said that these inspecting officers have been directed by the Board of Revenue to do no more than reprove brewers for violating rules for the first or the second time. This has given rise to the impression that Government does not desire that brewers should be punished for violating the excise rules, and this sufficiently explains the fact why Krishna Muchi has been punished for having excess liquor in his possession, while Nakur Chandra Shah, who sold him the excess liquor, has not been prosecuted. It has been ruled by the Board that brewers can sell liquor in exchange for grains and rice; and the Board has also ruled, in utter disregard of the recommendations of the Excise Commission, that brewers will be able to sell six bottles of wine to a person at one time. These rules will greatly facilitate the sale of liquor, the first rule, in particular, being calculated to increase drunkenness and consequent misery among the poorest classes of the population. The rule that brewers will not be able to sell liquor below the prices fixed by the Board is very good, but it will not be possible for many reasons to enforce it.

43. The *Aryavarta*, of the 31st March, says that Lord Dufferin will ruin India during the eight months he will yet remain in India. The only parallel to Lord Dufferin's administration will be found in the rule of Aurangzebe.

ARYAVARTA,
March 31st, 1888.

Lord Dufferin has annexed Burmah and imprisoned Theebaw. He is also going to annex Sikkim. He also means to annex Kashmir in utter disregard of the friendship between Maharajah Golap Singh and the English Government. It is also believed that Indore will share the fate of Kashmir.

44. The same paper says that it is true that the Indians enjoy under the rule of the Queen-Empress privileges of a kind which are not commonly enjoyed under a foreign rule; but it is a pity that their happiness is greatly marred by the despotic conduct of English officials of the type of Sir Lepel Griffin. The Anglo-Indian papers also do great harm by publishing false charges against the Native States.

ARYAVARTA.

British administration in India.

The Anglo-Indian papers also do great harm by publishing false charges against the Native States.

45. The *Dacca Prakash*, of the 1st April, says that Government is going to incur a heavy expenditure by importing nurses from England for its European soldiers. If nurses are really needed for the European soldiers, Government would do well to engage Eurasian nurses, who can be had for smaller salaries.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 1st, 1888.

European nurses for soldiers.

SAR SUDHANIDHI,
April 2nd, 1888.

46. The *Sár Sudhánidhi*, of the 2nd April, complains that Government pays no heed to public opinion in regard to the budget. The Viceroy and the Finance Minister have it all their own way in this matter.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 2nd, 1888.

47. Referring to the report of the Public Service Commission, the *Som Prakásh*, of the 2nd April, says that, properly speaking, the report is not a wholly impartial document, but it is not discouraging to the Indian people. The recommendations, if fully given effect to, will do immense good to India.

The Report of the Public Service Commission.

SOM PRAKASH.

48. The same paper complains that within a very short time, the Government has enhanced the price of opium from Rs. 16 to Rs. 26 per seer, and that by its present system of granting passes to the highest bidders, it compels opium vendors to pay heavy sums for passes, whereas formerly they had only to pay some three or four rupees for the same. There are some three or four vendors in every district who compete for the passes, and thus enhance the bids; and so the vendors are compelled to fix very high prices for the opium which is sold by them. This is the reason why the selling price of opium at Dacca is annas fourteen per tola. All this clearly shows how poor opium-eaters are taxed by the Government. But what offence have they committed that they should be dealt with so cruelly by Government?

Opium.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SANSODHINI,
March 23rd, 1888.

49. The *Sansodhini*, of the 23rd March, says that the Civil Procedure Code is going to be amended. The only object of the amendment is to empower Munsifs to write the depositions of parties and witnesses in the English language. But this will lead to serious inconvenience, as it is often very difficult to translate Bengali depositions into English as soon as they are given. Many good pleaders have been heard to say that many European Judges often mistranslate evidence and write one thing for another. It is certain that the Munsifs will also commit similar blunders in translating Bengali depositions into English, and so the strict administration of justice will be prejudiced by such mistranslation of evidence.

The proposed amendment of the Civil Procedure Code.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 2nd, 1888.

50. The *Naravibhakar Sádharani*, of the 2nd April, says that Sir Steuart Bayley is going to acquire greater popularity among both Anglo-Indians and natives in consequence of another act of his. He has directed that 35 Associations in the Bengal Presidency should be furnished with Bills and Reports, and should be asked to express their opinion about them. It would have been better, however, if some more Associations had been furnished with the papers referred to.

Public Associations and Legislative measures.

IV.—NATIVE STATES.

HINDU RANJIKÁ,
March 28th, 1888.

51. The *Hindu Ranjiká*, of the 28th March, says that the ungentlemanly behaviour of the British Political officers in the Native States in Central India has brought disgrace upon British rule in India. Will Lord Dufferin make no attempt to remove this disgrace?

The Rewah State.

The writer is convinced that on the eve of his departure Lord Dufferin will do all he can to protect the Dowager Maharani of Rewah from insult and oppression at the hands of the haughty Political officers in that State. If His Excellency does this, the act will really be a glorious one in his administration.

52. The same paper learns from the *Civil and Military Gazette* that Lord Dufferin will annex Cashmere on some plea or other. If it is really in-

HINDU RANJKA,
March 28th, 1888.

Cashmere.

tended that Cashmere should be taken, certainly Englishmen will find no difficulty whatever in devising a pretext for that purpose. But will Lord Dufferin crown his already notorious administration with such an act as this—the annexation of Cashmere? Well, whatever the course His Lordship decides upon, it is requested that he will exercise a little more foresight in this connection, so that, by treading in the footsteps of Lord Dalhousie, he does not help to produce consequences the very opposite of those that are now discerned or calculated upon.

53. The *Bangabási*, of the 31st March, says that Luchman Das, the late Dewan of Cashmere, is a creature of Mr. Plowden, the Resident. The dismissal

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

Cashmere.

of Luchman Das has therefore brought discredit on Mr. Plowden, and Mr. Plowden has on that account undertaken the task of pleading for Luchman Das before the Viceroy, who will shortly visit Cashmere. A barrister has indeed been already engaged on behalf of the dismissed minister. But why is such a strange course going to be adopted? The new Dewan, Amar Singh, is a brother of the Maharaja. Luchman Das is the son of Jowala Das and nephew of the late Dewan, Anant Ram, and are his claims to the premiership to be considered superior to those of the son of the late Maharaja Runbir himself? Why, then, fight for Luchman Das, or get barristers to plead his case? It is hoped that the Viceroy will not, during his visit to Cashmere, interfere in the affairs of that State.

54. The *Navavibhakar Sádharaní*, of the 2nd April, says that chivalry, upon which Englishmen pride them-

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 2nd, 1888.

The Dowager Maharani of Rewah.

selves so much, appears to have disappeared from among them. The conduct of English officers towards the late Maharani of Tikari, towards the Dowager Maharani of Burdwan, and towards the Begum of Bhopal, is unparalleled for its harshness, and argues complete extinction of chivalrous sentiments towards the sex. And now the story comes that the Maharani of Rewah is being grossly ill-treated by Sir Lepel Griffin. It is expected that the generous Lord Dufferin and the kind-hearted Lady Dufferin, who has been so deeply moved by the sufferings of the female sex in India, will relieve the distress of the Maharani of Rewah when they pay their contemplated visit to that State.

V.—PROSPECTS OF THE CROPS AND CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE.

55. The *Bangabási*, of the 31st March, is really alarmed to find that the Government itself is acknowledging the fact of the existence of scarcity in Orissa.

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

Scarcity in Orissa and in Manbhoom.

Government awaits further information on the subject. It is hoped that, when such information is received, it will be published.

A correspondent who frequently visits pergunnahs Chaliama, Chowrashi, Para and Pandra in Manbhoom thus writes to this paper about the present scarcity in that part of the country:—The people have been suffering from scarcity of food since *Magh* last, and their sufferings have now considerably increased. Not to speak of low-class people, even the *bhadralog* are starving. Heaven alone knows what is in store for these sufferers! Reports of like sufferings have reached the writer from different parts of Manbhoom, but Government has taken no steps to relieve the sufferings of the poor people. Thefts have increased and scarcity of water is also keenly felt; and coolie-recruiters are doing brisk work.

DACCA PRAKASH,
April 1st, 1888.

56. The *Dacca Prakásh*, of the 1st April, has received the information that fever is raging in an epidemic form at Uthali and the neighbouring villages. If medical help is not at once sent to those places, the mortality there is likely to be very heavy.

SOM PRAKASH,
April 2nd, 1888.

57. A correspondent of the *Som Prakásh*, of the 2nd April, writing from Santipore, complains that salt is selling there from seven pice to two annas per seer, to the great distress of the poor, and that the people of that place suffer greatly from scarcity of water during the months of *Chaitra* and *Baisakh*.

High prices of salt and scarcity of water at Santipore in the Nuddea district.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

SAHACHAR,
March 28th, 1888.

58. The *Sahachar*, of the 28th March, referring to the Dufferin Memorial Meeting, says that the Maharajah of Durbhunga was voted to the chair, on the motion of the Nawab of Moorshedabad, probably with the object of making it appear that it was a meeting not only of the Anglo-Indians, but also of the Hindus and the Mahomedans; and there were among the speakers not only Anglo-Indians, but also Hindus, Mahomedans, Parsees, and Armenians; and so Englishmen in England, reading a report of the proceedings of this meeting, will naturally conclude that it was a meeting of all classes of the Indian people, and that, attended as it was by so many Rajahs, Maharajahs and Nawabs, it was a very respectable meeting. Now, nobody questions that it was a respectable meeting, but there is grave objection to its being called or regarded as a meeting of all classes and communitities.

The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* is despatching telegraphic messages telling the English public that the meeting was numerously attended by all the Indian races and communities. But the Indian public is not to be hoaxed by such means; for the Indian public knows full well that the meeting was properly speaking an Anglo-Indian meeting, and not a public meeting, as its supporters represent it to have been. The presence of a few Mahomedans and Hindus was owing to pressure and influence rather than to spontaneous feeling. All India thoroughly understands this, and native newspapers have stated how the matter really stands. But the English people, who have not the remotest chance of coming across these native newspapers, and who derive all their information regarding India from the Anglo-Indian papers, which are believed by them to be as true and infallible as the Gospel, will never know the secret of the whole affair.

SAHACHAR.

59. Referring to the address that has been given to Lady Dufferin, the same paper says that it fully approves of it. Surely India lies under a deep obligation to Her Ladyship. Her Excellency's memory will be cherished for ever in the Indian heart, and Lord Dufferin's name, too, will be associated with her memory for the active part His Lordship has taken in the development of her noble scheme. As regards the address presented to Lord Dufferin, the people of India approve of His Lordship's settlement of the Afghan boundary, but they condemn his wasteful expenditure of money on the North-Western frontier. For the Panjdeh affair they have every reason to blame the British Government, and they will not shrink from awarding to Lord Dufferin the share of blame which is his on account of that affair. For the Burmah war, they emphatically condemn Lord Dufferin's administration. For the increase of the salt tax, they are not inclined to grumble, and they are glad that the income-tax has not been enhanced; but they cannot refrain from shedding tears

Lord Dufferin's reply to the address.

when they think that the import duties have not been revived. They know that Lord Dufferin could not do much in that direction; but they had expected that His Lordship would make proposals in that connection which would be favourable to India. The report of the Finance Commission is not yet out; but there is every probability that when it will be out it is only the pockets of a few poor officers, and not those of any big officials, that will be touched. The whole Indian people thank Lord Dufferin with all their heart for the assurance given by him, in his reply to the address, that he will endeavour to promote their welfare wherever he may be after leaving this country.

60. The *Rungpore Dik Prakash*, of the 29th March, says that *pucca* buildings are under construction for the accommodation of the Gybanda Jail and Court; but the Engineers are making undue haste with these buildings, and so the buildings must be badly done.

RUNGPORE DIK
PRAKASH,
March 29th, 1888.

The Gybanda Jail and Court-house.

61. A correspondent of the *Prajá Bandhu*, of the 30th March, who says that he was present at the Dufferin Memorial Meeting, states that, among those

PRAJA BANDHU,
March 30th, 1888.

The Dufferin Memorial Meeting. present there, he noticed a few Anglo-Indian shop-keepers, a few cringing and servile Mahomedans, and some Hindus who are the disgrace of their community. Of the Anglo-Indians present, most were of the type and character of Gibbon the forger, of Traill the murderer, of Webb the adulterer, and of Larpent the bribe-taker. Of the Mahomedans present, the majority were school-boys, and the rest were mere pedlars and porters from the streets. Of the Hindus the majority came with the view of opposing the business of the meeting. There were also present some who, though decently attired, were barefooted. Most of these men knew nothing of the object of the meeting, and it was found on enquiry that they were the tenants of Maharajah Narendra Krishna.

62. The *Pratikár*, of the 30th March, repudiates the charge of hostility to Government laid at the door of the Native Press. The editors of native papers only try to point out to Government what is good and what is bad. They praise every just measure and condemn every wicked measure. The Government says that the native press always writes in a fault-finding spirit, that it severely criticises all measures of Government, and that it criticises the acts of all Government officials in a bad spirit, and abuses all officials. This is in one sense true, for the Government officers seldom do praiseworthy acts. If the Native Press is impartially judged, it will be found that the abuses levelled against it are most unjust and undeserved; and it is easy to prove this. The Native Press has blamed the Government for issuing the Confidential Police Circular; but it praises Sir Stuart Bayley for personally superintending the working of the Secretariat offices, for appointing Mr. Westmacott to enquire into the working of the outstall system, for appointing the Behar Irrigation Commission, for reducing the sentence passed against Sadhu Sahu, for extending elective rights in all municipalities, and for issuing a circular to all Divisional Commissioners directing the supply of copies of all Bills to public Associations in this country, with a view of receiving from them an expression of their opinion. The Native Press, in fact, prays in one voice that Sir Stuart Bayley may rule over them for ever. It praises him to whom praise is due. But who shall say that it ought to praise Sir Lepel Griffin for his high-handedness? Neither punishment nor persecution will induce it to praise such a tyrant. The Native Press will always praise the just and condemn the wicked, be such conduct on its part palatable to Government or not. The Native Press will not assign to Lord Dufferin the place which it has assigned to Lord Ripon. The Native Press does not unjustly revile anybody.

PRATIKAR,
March 30th, 1888.

63. The *Sulabh Samachár and Kushdaha*, of the 30th March, says that there are two gunny manufactories and two thread manufactories on the Garden

SULABH SAMACHAR &
KUSHADHA,
March 30th, 1888.

The mills at Garden Reach near Calcutta.

Reach road near Calcutta. It is said that young children are employed in those mills on small salaries and are made to work very hard. The Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs inspects the manufactories, but the manager contrives to deceive him in this respect, and so the juvenile labourers derive no benefit from his visits. These boys are made to work longer than the prescribed time.

ARYA DARPAN,
March 30th, 1888.

64. The *Arya Darpan*, of the 30th March, says that the Chief Commissioner of Burma has upheld the glory of the English nation by dismissing Mr. Murray, the Police Inspector, who caused two Burmese women to be whipped. The Chief Commissioner rightly says that the man who can whip a woman does not deserve to live within British territories. All this is very good; but the writer would ask, are those men ornaments of the British Raj who violate female chastity? Certainly not. But there are some European and native officers of Government whose misdeeds and immoral character have been exposed in the press during the last few months, and who therefore deserve immediate dismissal from Government service. But they have not been punished or taken to task. Those who ravish virtuous women deserve a severer punishment than dismissal from the public service.

BANGABASI,
March 31st, 1888.

65. The *Bangabasi*, of the 31st March, says that, in the address Lord Dufferin's reply to the presented to Lord Dufferin, references have been made to the frontier defences, to the annexation of Burmah, to the income-tax, to the increase of the salt duty, to the Finance Committee, to the Public Service Commission, and to the Native Princes. On these points, as dealt with in Lord Dufferin's reply to the address, the writer observes as follows:—

1. Lord Dufferin considers it certain that neither Russia nor England will ever cross the boundary which has been fixed upon by the Boundary Commission. The writer cannot say whether England will or will not cross that boundary; but he has not much faith in the foresight of those who think that Russia will never cross it. Lord Dufferin knows that Russia will cross that boundary, or he would not have spent so much money on defensive works on the frontier.
2. As to the income-tax, big men are dissatisfied with it; but they have found some solace in the increase of the salt duty which is pressing so hard upon the poor; and so it is no wonder that the rich should cease to grumble against the income-tax.
3. The writer knows not what the recommendations of the Finance Committee are, but he feels sure that only some petty officers will be affected by its proposals, and all big officers will remain untouched.

Retrenchment never affects big folks, who have therefore no occasion to be dissatisfied with the financial measures of Government. It is therefore no wonder that some big people have expressed themselves satisfied with Lord Dufferin's administration, and His Lordship, who is also a big man and cares only for the welfare of big people, has very complacently accepted the eulogistic address presented to him by some big men of Calcutta.

4. The writer does not believe that the 200 millions of Indian people will derive any good whatever from the Public Service Commission; and there is also no knowing what shape the recommendations of that Commission will assume after passing through the hands of the Home Government and the British Parliament. Rich men have no cause for anxiety on any account, but the dumb millions of India, who have a world of wants to think of, will find no consolation whatever

in the Public Service Commission. For how can those who suffer the pangs of hunger all day and all night find anything to interest them in such big matters as this Commission which has dealt with questions possessing no bearing whatever upon the question of their own weal or woe? Big folks confess themselves charmed with the affability of Lord Dufferin; but how can poor people, who have had nothing to do with Lord Dufferin personally, and whose distress has been in no measure removed or mitigated by His Lordship, join in big people's demonstrations in His Lordship's honour?

5. Lord Dufferin says that they alone find fault with the annexation of Burmah who have no knowledge of politics. Was Burmah then annexed for the defence of the Empire? If so, it will perhaps be also found necessary to annex Thibet. But why has not Afghanistan been annexed for the same reason? If there was a fear of French intrigue in Burmah, there has always been a fear of Russian intrigue in Afghanistan. It will perhaps be said that the Amir of Afghanistan is an ally of the British Government; but could not the Burmese King, too, have been converted into such an ally? Why, again, talk of philanthropy in connection with this annexation of Burmah? If Burmah has been annexed for the defence of the Empire, why talk of the miseries of the Burmese people under their own King? Theebaw has always been described as a monster; but have the rulers of Afghanistan been so many saints? The English Government has got Yakub and Ayub in its hands, and so it would not have failed to annex Afghanistan if it had thought it possible to maintain its supremacy in that country. Why, again, has mention been made of the expenses of the conquest of Burmah? Lord Dufferin says that India is bound to pay for the administration of Upper Burmah when she has received so much money from Lower Burmah. But the fact is that during the 36 years that Lower Burmah has become a member of the India Empire, it has paid only 12 crores of rupees to India; but the conquest of Lower Burmah cost India 30 crores of rupees and 20 or 25 thousand lives; and its administration for the first 18 years or so must have cost India some 20 crores of rupees. Is not Government ashamed to talk of India as having profited by Lower Burmah?
6. Lord Dufferin says, in his reply to the address, that it is not the object of Government to interfere in the affairs of the Native States, and that, as a matter of fact, such interference is but seldom made; but the writer finds that, as a matter of fact, the Indian Political officers always interfere in the affairs of the Native States. He sees that the independence of Bhopal is gone, and that the Begum has become a slave of the Political officers. Of Rewah, it is needless to speak. Holkar is trembling for his safety. Cashmere seems to be gasping for its last breath. Gwalior is the scene of the despotism of the Political officers, and the Nizam also is a tool in the hands of those officers. The Native Princes are, in fact, worse off than the ordinary zemindars; and yet Lord Dufferin says that their independence is not touched or interfered with!
66. A correspondent of the same paper says that experiments were made with canon balls, &c., at the Fulta fort on the 18th and 19th Falgun last, in consequence of which most of the inhabitants of

Military practice at the Fulta fort.

BANGABATI,
March 31st, 1888.

about 100 villages situated within the jurisdiction of the Shampore thana from Makarpathar to the mouth of the Baganda khal had to leave their homes and to take shelter under trees. A large amount of property has also been lost. Police oppression also increased during these experiments; but there is no one to listen to the humble protests and representations of the poor sufferers. O! when will such oppressions cease!

SANJIVANI.
March 31st, 1888.

67. The *Sanjivani*, of the 31st March, draws attention to the fact that Messrs. Mehta, Allen, and Kennedy, who have justified the income-tax in the address which has been presented to Lord Dufferin, everely condemned it as unjust and oppressive at the public meeting held at the Town Hall some time ago to protest against its imposition.

SANJIVANI,

68. The same paper says that the coolies who are now being sent from Raneegunge are dying of cholera in large numbers, and expresses the hope that Sir Stenart Bayley will, under these circumstances, put a stop for the present to coolie emigration from Bengal. The Chief Commissioner of Assam is also requested to look to the matter.

SANJIVANI.

69. The same paper says that the promoters of the movement for doing honour to Lord Dufferin coupled Lady Dufferin's name with that of His Lordship with the object of diminishing in some degree the violence of the public opposition which they had anticipated against their movement; and their stratagem has not wholly failed; for those who had decided to oppose the movement were induced to refrain from doing so on finding Lady Dufferin's name coupled with that of Lord Dufferin in the programme of the meeting. If the two names had not been coupled in this way, the police would have found it beyond their power to prevent two thousand people from entering the Hall. Indeed, many had thought of quarrelling with the police, and of so getting themselves arrested in order that they might in this way get an opportunity of proving in a law court the worthless character of the demonstration; but considered in another, and a more important point of view, the stratagem of the promoters of the movement was a very ill-advised one. For it is owing to this unwise move of theirs that Lady Dufferin, who is loved and respected for her philanthropic labours to all classes of people, has been deprived of a really universal demonstration in her honour. No one would have opposed a separate movement in her honour. Indeed, many people, who strongly disapprove of Lord Dufferin's administration, were about to request the Sheriff to convene a public meeting for doing honour to Lady Dufferin, and they desisted from their intended course when they heard that the movement in honour of Lord Dufferin would include Lady Dufferin too; and Lord Dufferin, it must be admitted, has not done well in allowing his wife's name to be associated with his own in this movement. His Lordship has rightly said that his wife's fame will last longer than his own, and he evidently sees that no endeavour, howsoever made, will succeed in giving any duration to his own fame. The writer requests those who had contemplated a meeting in honour of Lady Dufferin not to forget to do so when the present excitement subsides.

Speaking of the Town Hall meeting, the writer says that, though he admits that Lord Dufferin's acts have not been so injurious as those of Lord Lytton, he cannot help saying that they are sufficiently bad in themselves. The Indians are a forgiving people. They allowed Lord Lytton to depart without passing a public censure upon him; and they would have also allowed Lord Dufferin to depart in the same way, and they would not indeed have even talked disparagingly of His Lordship if the promoters

of the Town Hall meeting had only praised him for his affability or praised his policy in their own name, instead of in that of the public. But wishing well to their country as they do, they could not sit idle when a few self-constituted leaders of the native community came forward to honour His Lordship and eulogise his administration; and it was only then that a strong opposition was made not only in Calcutta, but also in the mofussil. This alarmed the promoters of the movement, and their alarm increased when they found telegrams coming in to the Sheriff in large numbers from the mofussil protesting against their movement. They therefore asked for the assistance of the police, and in order to prevent the opponents of the movement from entering the Hall, they kept the front doors closed and admitted Englishmen and English ladies and Mussulmans of all ages by the back doors; and yet they are shameless enough to say that their meeting was a public and representative meeting, and that those who opposed the movement were only a few school-boys who went away after sauntering in an aimless manner for a short time. The Anglo-Indian Editors have rebuked native students for protesting against the movement; but these truthful Editors have nothing to say about the bringing of the Mussulman students of the Calcutta Madrisa and the Eurasian students of the Calcutta Free School into the hall in order to grace the meeting. Boys of eight or ten, who must have been panting for their mothers' laps after their weary school hours, were also brought in. The promoters of the meeting have described all the opponents of the movement as being school-boys. But it is well to tell them that the proprietors of this paper were among the opponents, and that full one-half of the opponents were school-boys like the proprietors of this paper! But granting that the opponents were all school-boys, there was no reason whatever for refusing them admission, and the refusal to admit them has been in the highest degree unjustifiable; for it was clearly wrong not to admit Hindu boys when Mussulman and Eurasian boys were admitted.

The *Reis and Rayyet* says that the boys were refused admittance because they generally occupy all the front seats before the arrival of elderly people. But did not that consideration apply to the many Eurasian and Mussulman boys and even infants who were admitted to the meeting? And why, if the Eurasian and Mussulman children did not occupy the front seats, was the Deputy Sheriff provided with a seat in a corner, and why had a native barrister to remain standing in front of the Deputy Sheriff? Indeed, none but the *Reis and Rayyet* will venture to say that positive instructions were not given for preventing the opposers from entering the hall. Granting that some school-boys created a disturbance, what necessity was there, on the part of those who pretend to be the leaders of the native community, for holding the meeting with closed doors? The future of the country depends upon those who went to oppose the meeting in spite of the threats of the Anglo-Indian promoters of the meeting that their heads would be broken by English marines, and who nevertheless returned unhurt. It has been said that the editor of this paper has brought about the protest meetings in the mofussil by means of wire-pulling. But the writer learns from a Mymensingh friend of his that if anybody is guilty of wire-pulling in this matter, it is the officials whose flatterers have sent letters and telegrams to many places requesting people to join the movement. The claims of the few Rajahs and Maharajahs who went to the Town Hall meeting to represent the native community are on a par with the claims of the three famous tailors of Tooley Street to represent the whole English people.

70. The *Aryavarta*, of the 31st March, says that there never was such an objectionable meeting as the Town Hall meeting in honour of Lord Dufferin.

ARYAVARTA,
March 31st, 1882.

The police allowed only Mussulmans to enter the hall. Many present at the meeting protested against the presentation of an address to Lord Dufferin. It would have been more honourable to Lord Dufferin if he had received no address instead of receiving an address like the one which has been presented to him.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI,
April 2nd, 1888.

71. The *Navavibhakar Sádharaní*, of the 2nd April, does not attach so much value to bone-dust as a manure as the Director of Agriculture for Bengal and his Assistant do. It thinks that abundant harvests can be reaped if corn-

fields are manured with a sufficient quantity of cow-dung and castor-seed cakes. In some parts of Burdwan a powder made of the horns of the buffalo is used as manure. The experiments made at the model farm in Burdwan show that cow-dung is superior to castor-seed cakes as a manure. But the relative merits of cow-dung and bone-dust, and also of castor-seed cake and bone-dust, have not yet been clearly ascertained by experiment.

NAVAVIBHAKAR
SADHARANI.

72. The same paper says that the rumour that Sir Steuart Bayley is not very fond of dwelling in the hills is going to prove true. Sir Steuart will remain at Darjeeling only during the hottest time of the summer, and will come to Hazaribagh and live there as soon as it becomes a little cooler. Sir George Campbell often lived at Hazaribagh and worked very hard at that place. Indeed, no Indian official has been able to beat Sir George Campbell in hard work, and yet Sir George's health was not injured in the least by continued residence in the plains.

Sir Steuart Bayley and hill residence.

SURABHI & PATAKA,
April 2nd, 1888.

73. The *Samvád Prabhakár*, of the 2nd April, thanks Lord Dufferin for visiting the northern part of the Town of Calcutta. None of his predecessors ever visited such filthy quarters. But it would have been better if this visit had been paid earlier, as it might then have been expected to lead to substantial sanitary and other improvements.

Lord Dufferin's bustee visit.

ASSAM PAPERS.

SILCHAR,
March 26th, 1888.

74. The *Silchar*, of the 26th March, says that there is no gainsaying that the coolies in the tea-gardens are most brutally treated. In cases of illness these wretched beings are, as a rule, driven out of the gardens. In most of the tea-gardens there are neither hospitals nor medical men. It is hoped that the local Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Kennedy, who is now on tour, will kindly investigate these matters and take remedial measures.

Coolies in the tea-gardens.

SILCHAR.

75. The same paper, referring to the notorious Kazirbazar case of Sylhet, says that Mr. Mesurier has distinctly stated in his judgment that the practice of impressing coolies for transport "is a usual and recognised one," and he does not therefore think that the police did anything very wrong by endeavouring to impress a coolie for transport. What a fine argument this! If most Government officers be in the habit of receiving bribes, will it be right to regard bribery as "a usual and recognised practice," and therefore not improper? Indeed, the impressment of coolies by Government officers is highly objectionable and illegal. Impressment of coolies may be necessary and justifiable in times of war. But when resorted to solely for the purpose of gratifying the whims and caprices of a Deputy Commissioner or other Huzoor, it must be held to be in the highest degree improper and illegal. Is this English justice, and is this the way in which Englishmen respect their own laws? And ought police oppression of this kind to pass unnoticed and unpunished? The poor

The Kazirbazar case in Sylhet.

Bengalis are doomed to everlasting suffering from the highhandedness, injustice, and partiality of foreigners. Their endurance is indeed most wonderful. But who shall say that there is no limit even to Bengali patience?

76. Referring to the Report of the Public Service Commission, the same paper says that it is very gratifying to observe that it contains nothing to show that race-feeling has had anything to do in its preparation, and that if Government acts in accordance with the recommendations of the Commission, the grievances of the people will be materially redressed.

The Report of the Public Service Commission.

77. From a correspondent writing from Habigunge, the same paper has received the information that the Extra Assistant Commissioner, Baboo Kedar Nath Sanyal, distributed the paper on Mensuration to the examinees by mistake instead of the paper on Arithmetic. Well, it would have been well for him to report the matter at once to the Inspector of Schools, but it is said that instead of doing so he entreated the examinees to tell nobody of the mistake he had made.

78. The same paper quite disapproves of the proposal that has been made for abolishing the Police Inspectorship. By proposing the abolition of that office, Government seems to intend serious injury to native officers in the police by making it impossible for those among them who are Inspectors to become Assistant Superintendents.

79. The same paper complains that the water which the town public of Silchar use for drinking purposes is very filthy. This is owing to the dead bodies of animals being thrown into the river. It is hoped that the Municipal authorities of Silchar will take immediate steps to prevent the river water from becoming dirty and impure.

80. The *Paridarshak*, of the 26th March, says that the Deputy Commissioner has only released the defendants in the Kazirbazar case, but he has not said a word about the highhanded proceedings of the police. Is it then the object of the Deputy Commissioner to shield the police and countenance oppressive proceedings on its part? The Chief Commissioner of Assam is requested to call for all the papers of this case in order to see what sort of highhandedness and oppression is now reigning in Sylhet.

81. The same paper says that Mr. Hunt sued the syce of the Deputy Commissioner of Sylhet before Mr. Mesurier, and the greater part of the case for the prosecution and the defence had been gone through when a slip came to Mr. Mesurier, and he at once transferred it to the file of Eshan Baboo, Extra Assistant Commissioner. The syce has been fined Rs. 16. His offence was that he had told a third person that Mr. Hunt was a *budmash*.

82. The same paper says that some boys of the second and third classes of the Sylhet Zillah School secured copies of question papers by unfair means; but the authorities did not succeed in tracing those who abstracted the papers, and so they set new papers. This emboldened the boys, who made an attempt to substitute new answer papers for those they had put in by breaking open the box in which their answer papers had been kept. But they were detected in the act. All this is

SILCHAR,
March 26th, 1888.

SILCHAR.

SILCHAR.

SILCHAR.

PARIDARSHAK,
March 26th, 1888.

PARIDARSHAK.

PARIDARSHAK.

really disgraceful, and Government should lose no time to enforce discipline, and introduce moral education in the schools.

PARIDARSHAK.
March 26th, 1888.

83. A correspondent of the same paper says that a theft having been committed at the Shillong Secretariat under very peculiar circumstances, the authorities have ordered that no clerk, except the head assistant, should be allowed to remain in the office before or after the office time. But this is a very improper order. If any junior clerk is suspected to have committed the theft, he alone ought to be punished after due enquiry, and the whole body of clerks should not be insulted in this way. The Deputy Commissioner is requested to again depute some competent officer to make a careful enquiry.

The Shillong Secretariat.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 7th April 1888.